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2020 - 2021

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Nomination Round

Civics

BEST LOCAL POLITICIAN

BEST CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

BEST TEACHER/PROFESSOR

BEST ANIMAL ADVOCATES

BEST NONPROFIT

BEST RECREATION SPACE

BEST THING ABOUT EUGENE

BEST PROGRAM FOR THE HOMELESS

BEST THING ABOUT SURVIVING
COVID-19 IN LANE COUNTY

Live Action

BEST PHOTOGRAPHER

BEST JOURNALIST

BEST DJ (CLUB)

BEST DJ (RADIO)

BEST COMEDIAN

BEST ACTOR/ACTRESS

BEST LOCAL THEATER COMPANY

BEST DRAG QUEEN

BEST EVENT VENUE

BEST LOCAL BAND

BEST LOCAL SINGER/SONGWRITER

BEST ARTIST

BEST CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

Snacks

BEST BURGER

BEST FRENCH FRIES

BEST LATIN AMERICAN FOOD

BEST ITALIAN FOOD

BEST VEGETARIAN/VEGAN

BEST THAI

BEST CHINESE FOOD

BEST SUSHI

BEST PIZZA

BEST DOUGHNUT

BEST PHO

BEST BAR

BEST COCKTAILS

BEST COFFEE

BEST HOT WINGS

BEST KOMBUCHA

BEST COMFORT FOOD

BEST COFFEE SHOP

BEST HANGOVER BREAKFAST

BEST DESSERTS

BEST BAKERY

BEST FOOD CART

BEST LOCAL BEER

BEST LOCAL WINE

BEST DISTILLERY

BEST MEAL UNDER \$10

BEST MEAL OVER \$25

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BEST RESTAURANT

BEST BARTENDER

BEST SERVER

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BEST OUT-OF-TOWN RESTAURANT
(NOT IN EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD)

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BEST SIT-DOWN RESTAURANT
TO GO TO AFTER COVID

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BEST MASSAGE OR PHYSICAL THERAPIST

BEST HEALTH CARE WORKER

BEST SECONDHAND SHOP

BEST PLACE TO GET FIT

BEST YOGA

BEST LOCAL FOOD MARKET

BEST VETERINARIAN

BEST HAIR STYLIST

BEST BARBERSHOP

BEST OUTDOORSY STORE

BEST BICYCLE STORE

BEST CANNABIS DISPENSARY

BEST CATEGORY WE DIDN'T
INCLUDE AND WHO WOULD WIN

BEST THING ABOUT EUGENE WEEKLY

WORST THING ABOUT EUGENE WEEKLY

BASIC RULES: This is the nomination round. It will be followed by a runoff round. You may only vote once in each round. We will only count your vote if you fill in 10 or more categories and provide contact info for verification. Businesses cannot collect ballots and give them to us in batches. Photocopied ballots are not accepted. This contest is limited to local and locally based people and institutions. Have fun! **NOMINATIONS END AT MIDNIGHT ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.**

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or you can vote online anytime from now till midnight on Sept. 30, 2020 at

BESTOFEUGENE.COM EUGENE **Weekly**

HOLD BIG TIMBER ACCOUNTABLE

Despite what the timber industry would have you believe, logging won't save us from the climate-driven wildfires burning across the West. Besides the fact that the timber industry is the No. 1 source of emissions in the state, studies have also shown that clearcuts and monocrop tree farms actually burn more severely than native forests, putting surrounding communities at greater risk from wildfire.

Even in the face of the devastation that has leveled entire towns across the state and the evidence that shows it was exacerbated by contemporary logging practices, Big Timber is pushing to ramp up logging on public lands.

Just a few miles away from Eugene, neighborhoods in the Thurston Hills were evacuated due to the threat of the Holiday Farm Fire, yet Seneca Jones and the Bureau of Land Management are

still actively advocating to clearcut the area despite the BLM's own scientists showing that logging would increase fire hazards to local residents.

It is time that we hold these corporations accountable for the destruction they have wrought on our communities and our climate and stop them from putting any more towns at risk. If we are to survive climate change and the increase in wildfire that it will bring, we must protect our native forests, not sell them off to the corporations responsible for these disasters.

Madeline Cowen
Eugene

TAKE BACK THE FOREST

Oregon's citizens need forest laws that increase family health, livelihoods, fisheries, clean water and carbon storage. We need rules specifically protecting biodiversity and soils. Oregon's Forest Practices Acts achieve just the

opposite. They were written to shield Big Timber from lawsuits and to prevent citizen rule making.

Senate Bill 1602, conceived in secret meetings, likewise benefits polluters and poisoners. It will increase harm to coastal communities. SB 1602's goal is a statewide Habitat Conservation Plan. Oregon's chemical deforestation industries will be protecting our fisheries and water quality. To ensure that future, SB 1602 immediately prohibits lawsuits against aerial forest poisoning and criminalizes interference with state-assisted aerial poison drift.

SB 1602 sped into law with Oregon Forest Research Institute support. Recent investigative journalism revealed OFRI engaging in blatantly illegal lobbying and misinformation campaigns directed by Oregon's deforestation industries.

Gov. Kate Brown requested the secretary of state investigate OFRI wrong-

doing. In the 1990s, legislators Brown and Secretary of State Bev Clarno delivered the unconstitutional tax privileges and liability immunities that keep deforestation dominant today. SB 1602 is their current collaboration.

Reckless forest poisoning and pollution will continue until we the people recapture our stolen Constitutional property right to sue for off-target aerial poisons contaminating our bodies, property and water supplies.

John Sundquist
Coburg

TIME TO ACT ON CLIMATE

Climate change is here! We could contact Congressman Peter DeFazio and ask for real action — or is it too late? DeFazio, with his years of experience and his support from fellow members of Congress has the best chance of making the needed legislation. How about a tax on gasoline or diesel fuels? How about a



VIEWPOINT BY EMILY SEMPLE AND RALPH MCDONALD

The Burning Question

WHEN DO WE GET SERIOUS ABOUT CLIMATE ACTION?

Big Trees Cause Rain." As long-term Eugene residents, we remember the vintage bumper sticker. But in no prior September were we as thankful for the arrival of the rain, water that is life to communities, animals, birds and many big trees.

We're thankful, too, for dedicated firefighters and for scores of volunteers helping those whose homes and possessions were consumed in the fast-moving flames. People left quickly and needed shelter and everything else from food, clothing and baby supplies. Like many of our neighbors, we felt trapped in Eugene, hunkered indoors to avoid smoke filled lungs. A friend reported his honey bees dead in the yard. Deer in the south hills were seen licking each other to remove ash.

The east wind, which brought the fire toward the valley, was unusual, but the fires and thick smoke that have stayed in the area are becoming too common. Small particulate pollution and toxins from burning forests, structures and vehicles are a recurring health risk. Because of summer forest fires and winter wood stove usage, the American Lung Association in 2018 rated Eugene's bad air spikes among the worst in the nation. A health provider that serves Oregon Health Plan recently lobbied for more compensation. The company forecast a 500-percent increase in forest fires and predicted the resulting smoke would dramatically increase respiratory illness, and, therefore their own costs for service.

Are we doomed to see ever more devastating natural and human disasters from forest fires, strong winds,

hurricanes, flooding and crop failures?

"The debate is over in terms of climate change," California Gov. Gavin Newsom says. "The hots are getting a lot hotter and the wets are getting a lot wetter. The science is absolute. The data is self evident." Climate is warming rapidly; and, if we do nothing, the human and ecological costs will be staggering.

Oregonians, too, are also ready for climate action, and as 350Eugene points out, citizens are acting to stop the Jordan Cove pipeline, phase out natural gas expansion and demand robust local Climate Action plans. Forests are an important part of needed climate action. West of the Holiday Farm Fire just outside of Springfield, the Bureau of Land Management plans to log mature second-growth forest (see EW7/23). Josh Laughlin of Cascadia Wildlands tells us the BLM's own study shows if these Thurston Hills Natural Area trees are cut, the forest fire danger is increased for the next 30 to 40 years. In a study of 1,500 forest fires tracked over a four-decade period across the U.S. West, "forests with the most logging burned in the severest fires," forest scientist Dominick DellaSala says.

Citizens can add their voices to protect the Thurston Hills Natural Area, and they can press local government to achieve climate results. As a city councilor, Emily Semple introduced and saw to passage last fall's youth-led climate action resolution. Ralph McDonald sat on last winter's air quality subcommittee of the Sustainability Commission, and urged action from Lane Regional Air Protection Authority (LRAPA) and the state to protect forests adjacent to the valley's airshed. The Eugene Climate Action Plan (CAP) has identified some critical steps to curb fossil fuel emissions, but both urban and

rural forest protection should also be addressed.

Yes, one local government can't just rewrite forest practices or regulate rural fire hazards, such as unsafe power lines, but Willamette Valley cities can press the Oregon Legislature to adopt better forest and airshed protection. These steps make economic sense. The annual fires are economic disasters for our communities, harming responsible local wood products companies, the many employees of these companies and the small businesses that serve these companies. Very few get rich from cutting the remaining Oregon "big tree" forests, shipping the logs to China whether their trunks are blackened or not.

The big older trees resist and slow down fires and it's important to protect them. Prior to becoming a councilor, Semple was a forest ecology graduate student, holding a degree in renewable natural resources. In her studies, she learned the large water quantity that mature trees store, 50 percent and more by weight, cools and moistens the forest glen. Big trees shade the understory to reduce flammable "ladder fuels" and ground foliage. They allow better air filtering, remove toxins and add oxygen to the airshed — important for forest embedded communities like ours. Protection of such trees should be a local priority, including both remaining ancient "climax" forests and mature second growth like the federal BLM Thurston Hills Natural Area stands.

Semple also urges Eugene city government to develop infrastructure and services to support climate refugees relocating to our area. Better fire emergency evacuation plans and resident alerts must be developed by the city (an emergency alert didn't go out to residents in Talent engulfed by the Alameda Fire, requiring emergency personnel to rush house to house). Local neighborhood associations can be asked to identify neighborhood structures that would serve as nearby smoke and fire shelters.

Forest policy change is required to stop another "unprecedented" Cascades fire and valley smoke inundation. Local emergency planning is in our own hands. Together, these form our best chance to breathe easier tomorrow. ■

Emily Semple is Ward 1 Eugene city councilor and is current council president.

Ralph McDonald is co-chair of the Southwest Hills Neighborhood Association (SHiNA) and a Eugene sustainability commissioner 2016-2020.

doubling of industries' emission fee of Title V of the Clean Air Act? It is an easy way to tax dirty industries such as Seneca and International Paper. This would be a real beginning.

Ruth Duemler
Eugene

A YOUNG HERO

Many heroes are emerging from stories of the fires and their aftermath. While his story ended in tragedy, 13-year-old Wyatt Tofte rises amongst these as a great hero for all times. We'll never know exactly what happened in those harrowing moments of decision, action and fate, but we can guess and imagine.

As the world burned all around him, it is evident that Wyatt returned home to rescue his grandmother. I imagine that he refused to live in a world in which his grandmother died alone in the fire, and he did not let that happen. It is reported that he, his dog and his grandmother were found together in a car, Wyatt in the driver's seat, evidently trying to ferry her to safety. Wyatt's phenomenal courage, bravery and honor, and his indomitable love for his grandmother, are truly astonishing. Wyatt has joined the ranks of the greatest heroes of all times. Wyatt, I bow to you with the greatest humility, respect and admiration. My heart goes out to your parents and everyone who loves you. May their broken hearts be uplifted by the knowledge that they raised this amazing young man with a lion's heart. They raised a true hero.

Jane Happy
Eugene

HOLD TRUMP ACCOUNTABLE

President Donald Trump's Occupational Safety and Health Administration values a meat packer's life at \$142.86 through fines of \$29,000 against JFB and Tyson Foods. With \$66 billion incomes, they kept employees on production lines unprotected from COVID-19 while showing signs of infection. A total of 203 later died.

Trump spared the meat industry from lawsuits, declaring them essential with an executive order written by the meat industry. In contrast, Ronald Reagan fined packers \$5 billion for similar malfeasance.

Tyson and JFB are accountable if consumers avoid their products, if investors unload stocks and bonds and if banks deny them loans.

On Nov. 3 Trump must be held accountable for the murderous COVID-19 spreading policies he sanctioned. Meanwhile, he exposes his followers to similar risks in packed, indoor rallies, and he does nothing to slow COVID-19 while flouting the advice of his own public health agencies. This is far from the leadership example our country needs.

Ethen Perkins
Eugene

DONATE TO GOOD CANDIDATES

We have about 40 days until the election, which has already started with early voting in some places. The pandemic and the fires and the flooding back east only remind us of our weak and racist health-care system that's under constant attack by the right and disgruntled, and of the need to re-prioritize our economy to address climate change front and center.

Armed insurgents want us to roll over in fear of their violent threats, while Republicans chaotically dismantle our common causes, including voting rights and environmental and judicial safeguards, all to make themselves feel powerful. What should we do, pace in front of our dying post offices every day promoting the need for change and the power of the vote? Sure, but I've also decided to donate to grassroots organizations for getting out the vote and championing minority rights and sacred causes in the hopes they will be more effective at this late hour than I can be alone. In addition, I plan to give for the same reason, even in some smallish way, to great candidates in tight races. ElectionsDigest@dailykos.com has a comprehensive list. We can do this if we all commit to it!

Jack Cooper
Eugene

COPS SHOULD PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

At protests I've never seen cops or military personnel as a group helping activists trying to protect our many invaluable sources of sustenance. From acts insignificant to those large scale, everything that we eat, wear or buy reflects our thinking and commitment towards our surroundings. The tragedy is that the most bell-cose members of our society don't even stay neutral. They receive orders that contradict obvious care that we should all exercise for nature (and our) survival.

Unfortunately for everybody, the might they have is used to defend polluters, animal/human abusers and companies that have gotten pretty good at selling stuff that is designed to fall apart right after warranty for the item expires.

The argument that the American police locally and the military worldwide "are just doing their job" can't make right the unethical consequences that we all end up paying for. If you perceive a lot of red flags regarding a job, then don't make it your career.

Cops and the military are fertile territories for much criticism. They are however the part of modern society that could prove most helpful if they stop collaborating with those getting rich by destroying every possible life form's habitat for money. When we all, civilians, soldiers, and cops, take the fact seriously that everybody possesses a consciousness that we can listen to for guidance, we'll stop making this planet into a desert, a dump, a poisonous minefield. Nobody known is perfect, what matters is the direction we choose to take.

David Ivan Piccioni
Eugene

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Fanning the Flames

HOLIDAY FARM FIRE DEBUNKS THE FOREST MANAGEMENT NARRATIVE

By Henry Houston

On a media tour of Weyerhaeuser timberland 10 days after the start of the Holiday Farm Fire, a press information officer leading the trip says if you want to see what the Moon looks like, peer over at the side of the hill.

The hillside was filled with burnt tree stumps, scorched earth and smoldering spots — with a sea of smoke blanketing the sky.

The private timber plantation was just one of many to burn throughout Oregon during the historic wildfires that raged after the Sept. 7 windstorm. Although the wildfires in Oregon have sparked a call from the right for forest management, others say that a pro-timber narrative is the reason for some of the fires' ferocity — because the Holiday Farm Fire burned mostly across private timber forests.

"It's the legacy of forest mismanagement that is fueling the wildfires, along with climate change, which is the ultimate driver," says Tim Ingalsbee, executive director of Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology (FUSEE).

In the immediate days following the start of Oregon's wildfires, President Donald Trump visited California, which also has been affected by wildfires, and criticized the state for a lack of forest management. On Sept. 14, Trump told reporters at an airport in Sacramento that trees that fall and dry on the ground are "like a matchstick."

"If they're on the ground longer than 18 months, they've very explosive," he added.

Trump has long pushed for odd solutions, such as raking the forest floor — a statement he was ridiculed for the first time back in 2018. But national media outlets have contributed to a pro-forest management narrative, with the *Washington Post* running a Sept. 12 op-ed by former Oregon state Rep. Julie Parrish, a founding board member of Timber Unity Association. Parrish dismisses the idea that a wind event and climate change caused the fires; it was

"gross mismanagement of Oregon's forests," she writes.

Ingalsbee says maybe Trump isn't totally wrong about raking. It does address the primary hazardous fuel type like underbrush that can make wildfire spread. But the Holiday Farm Fire exposes the lie that logging prevents wildfires spread.

Ingalsbee says a wildfire can burn at a moderate intensity and easily wipe out a timber farm — and that's what happened with Holiday Farm. He says the fire shot down the valley, moving east to west, which is a rare event.

"Like a blowtorch in a wind tunnel," he adds. "The flames, embers, were moving horizontal."

Ingalsbee says Holiday Farm and other Oregon wildfires also had a lot of the other climate change and weather-related ingredients — high temperatures, warm winds and drought.

After the fast warm winds died down, he says the flames then moved on to the timber farms, mainly Weyerhaeuser's. The timber farms were "the accelerant for the extremely rapid rate of spread."

"Forest management did not stop wildfire spread. It did not lower its intensity or severity," he says.

Using GIS, FUSEE created a map with the perimeter of the Holiday Farm Fire atop a layer of the geographic area. The map shows this fire consists mostly of commercially logged stands. According to Mason, Bruce and Girard, a Portland-based forestry and natural resources consulting firm, 92,600 acres owned by private large forest companies in Lane County burned — nearly 60 percent of the fire's acreage.

How the fire burned on public lands is an extreme contrast to how quickly the fire burned on private land, Ingalsbee says adding, "It takes a really hot fire to completely kill all trees in an old growth forest."

In 2018, a study co-authored by Christopher Dunn of Oregon State and Harold Zald of Humboldt University examined the 2013 Douglas Complex Fire. They found that weather was the primary factor in determining fire severity but concluded fire severity was greater on private

plantations than in older public forests.

On Sept. 16, 2018, pro-logging organization Oregon Forest Resources Institute published a rebuttal on its website. The group's director of forestry Mike Cloughesy said the only conclusion he drew from the study was that forest management practices "may contribute to increased wildfire and tree mortality in the plantations they studied."

He added that private landowners don't need a study to remind them that younger trees are killed by fire, though firefighters told him it's easier to control wildfires on private timber farms.

One area where pro-logging and pro-environment perspectives agree is that nature interacts differently with old growth and timber farms. Ingalsbee says wind speeds are twice as strong on a clearcut. But wind speeds are halved when they hit an old growth forest. "A lot of that wind kind of bounces off the upper canopy," he says. "And then you got these big tree trunks that also block the wind."

Wildfire spread happens on surface fuels, like downed dead needles, limbs, grasses and young trees that have a diameter less than three inches, Ingalsbee says. "That's all that these young plantations are: just small diameter fine fuels right down to the ground," he adds.

After the Holiday Farm Fire, Ingalsbee says the scenery along the McKenzie Valley is going to be barren.

"Folks should prepare themselves for blackened, barren hillsides bordering the river," he says. "It'll be like going back in time to the 1980s — or whenever those clearcuts were first put in place. It's going to be ghastly for folks."

But with the pro-timber narratives, Ingalsbee says companies could influence Congress to allow them to go into public forests, especially if Trump loses the election and becomes a lame duck. Private timber companies' investments have "gone up in smoke," he says.

"There will be a mad lust to go on public lands. Any burned forests on public lands, they will be crazed to get access to that," he says.

If private timber companies do get access to the public lands, he says they'll make a bigger mess of the forests. "The river itself is going to run red this winter when the rains come down and wash off the barren slopes of those burned clearcuts," he says.

It's possible the area won't resemble the moon — it could offer a glimpse of the desolate landscape of Mars. ■

Library Levy

HAVING FUN ISN'T HARD WHEN YOU HAVE A LIBRARY CARD

By Taylor Perse

The traditional experience of going to a library, which may include browsing for a book and finding a quiet place to read next to a large window, is still on hold for the time being thanks to COVID-19. But the Eugene Public Library is hoping to bring some of that back by enhancing its online and limited in-person services. It just needs a levy renewal to do so.

The Eugene Public Library Foundation wants Eugene residents to vote "yes" to renew a levy that was first passed in 2015. This provides more funding for the library system at a slightly lower rate, adding no new taxes to the user, but providing more funds for the library. The foundation says that this levy is essential for providing materials for in-person and online use.

The current five-year levy, which raises \$2.7 million dollars a year, expires in 2021. Homeowners pay a tax of 17 cents each year for every \$1,000 of property value. According to the year three levy report, the library has seen a significant increase in teen programming and branch hours as a result of the funding.

Voting to renew the levy would end up costing the typical Eugene taxpayer less than they pay now, around \$37 dollars per year over the five-year period. The tax rate would decrease from 17 cents to 15 cents, providing the library with \$2.85 million a year — a substantial increase from the previous levy. The reason for this is tied to an increase in property value, says Reed Davaz McGowan, executive director of the Eugene Public Library Foundation.

Towards the end of July, the Eugene City Council had the opportunity to choose which levy option the public would vote on. They could either keep the levy at the current rate or decrease it; the council voted 6-2 to slightly decrease the tax amount in an effort to be cautious about asking homeowners to spend more money in an economic recession. The council also considered the fact that many other public bodies would also be struggling over the next year or so.

Although the library has limited services now, Davaz McGowan says that the levy is critical because during difficult economic times people rely on the library. "The renewal is really critical because library use in times of recession and economic downturn increases, because of powerful free resources available for everyone in the community," she says.

The renewed levy will be able to meet even more demands

brought on from the pandemic, allowing the downtown library to maintain its hours, provide educational and internet support for students and provide internet resources to populations who may not otherwise have access.

"The library has been open, even without being open to the public, by engaging people through digital access," Davaz McGowan says. Since the pandemic started, use of the library's digital resources have increased almost 75 percent. In those months nearly 1,000 new library cards have been issued.

With the renewed five-year levy, the library plans to provide online tutoring services for students who need extra help with school. They also plan to reopen some buildings in a limited and COVID safe way so that students can access free wifi.

In addition to educational resources, the library will also provide business-related help. When it is safe to meet in person, the library will offer free meeting spaces for agencies and individuals. It will also provide access to online programming which helps individuals develop new career skills.

And to keep everything running, 60 percent of the branch staff will be funded by the levy, Davaz McGowan says. But she adds that the foundation is concerned if the levy doesn't get passed because it means lost funding for those salaries and many other free online resources.

"The library continues to pivot, and they need to experiment with how they engage with the community," Davaz McGowan says, adding that in the beginning of the pandemic when masks were difficult to come by, the library's maker hub — a space where people can create and use items like sewing machines — was used to create masks for the community. ■



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slant

• So many wonderful words have been written about **the remarkable Ruth Bader Ginsberg**

since her death Sept. 18. But our favorites are her own words about how to live your life reprinted in the Sept. 20 *New York Times*. One gem: She was told by her mother-in-law, "In every good marriage, it helps sometimes to be a little deaf." The Notorious RBG writes that not only did she follow that advice at home, but "I have employed it as well in every workplace, including the Supreme Court. When a thoughtless or unkind word is spoken, best tune out. Reacting in anger or annoyance will not advance one's ability to persuade." Read that and you will understand how one courageous woman changed our world. She deserves a worthy successor, even if, in this political climate, that seems unlikely.

• **The global COVID-19 pandemic isn't going away any time soon**, and it's gotten no less dangerous. Cases

are spiking in Lane County. We are all sick of it, and still anxiously awaiting better testing and vaccine news. It's been a year of civil unrest — finally calling the world's attention to police abuse of people of color — and now, here on the West Coast, massive wildfires. Before we took a breath to ask, "What's next?" RBG died. With a presidential election on the horizon that could wind up in court, we are sincerely hoping 2021 doesn't look at 2020 and say, "Hold my beer."

• **Friday night lights are glowing at Civic Park.** About 20 local high school football teams are gathering each week for an eight-game season of 7v7 flag football — just like we used to play as kids. Hats off to the athletic directors, coaches, KidsSport and Civic Park for letting the kids play, as COVID-19 safe as you can these days.

• Speaking of KidsSports and football, Eugene's former Duck, now Los Angeles Chargers quarterback **Justin Herbert** had his NFL debut Sept. 20. Herbert told a *Bleacher Report* reporter that he was told about five

to 10 seconds before kickoff that he'd start against the 2020 Super Bowl champs Kansas City Chiefs. Herbert went on to rack up one rushing touchdown and one passing touchdown. The Chargers lost in overtime to the Chiefs, but it's amazing to see how well Herbert can play when he isn't chained to the Duck's otherwise vanilla playbook.

• **Seven months into the global pandemic, and some massive wildfires later, we are still printing.** Sure, we are a little thin these days, but we aren't going away, and your contributions and our advertisers have helped us hang in there. Thank you! We promise your T-shirts are coming! For those of you who prefer print: We do, too, and as soon as we can afford more pages, we will print them. Until then, in addition to our print stories, don't miss our online political and wildfire coverage at EugeneWeekly.com, from the firefighters and Baby Yoda to local inaction on getting the homeless safe from the smoke.

SLANT INCLUDES SHORT OPINION PIECES, OBSERVATIONS AND RUMOR-CHASING NOTES COMPILED BY THE EW EDITORIAL BOARD.
HEARD ANY GOOD RUMORS LATELY? CONTACT EDITOR@EUGENEWEEKLY.COM

TRIPLE P: THE POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Top 10 Tips For Parents

#3 Talk to your child about things they are interested in and share aspects of your day with them.

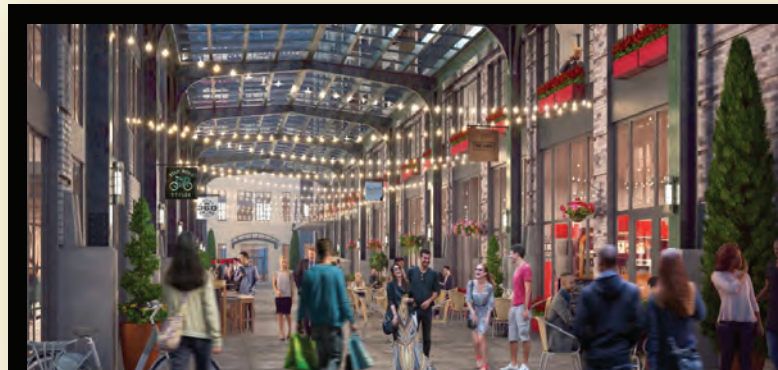


Now includes guide for parenting during COVID-19!

Learn more and sign up at LaneTripleP.org

Triple P Online is free for families with OHP! • Triple P esta disponible en español.

Find your place at Maker's Row in the 5th Street Public Market



Maker's Row

Maker's Row is located in the 5th Street Public Market expansion and offers accessible leasing options for emerging artisans to showcase their products within the Market and provide fun, interactive experiences for visitors.

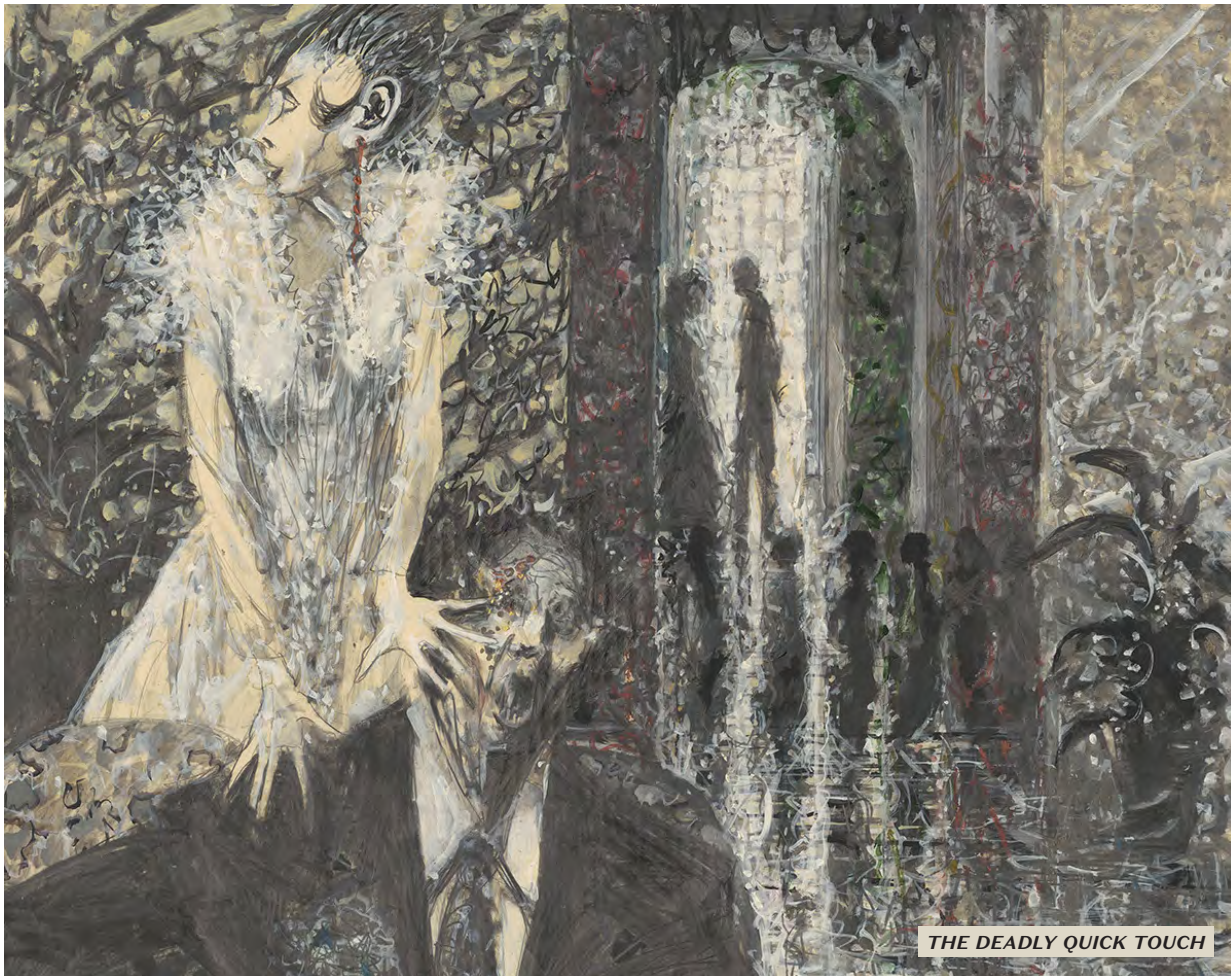
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The 5th Street Public Market looks forward to welcoming



Difficult Visions

IN LIFE, TOM BLODGETT SABOTAGED HIS OWN CAREER. EIGHT YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, HIS ART GETS A SECOND LOOK. *By Bob Keefer*



THE DEADLY QUICK TOUCH

One night while they were both on the art faculty at Lane Community College, Tom Blodgett and Craig Spilman literally came to blows. The two men laced up boxing gloves and went at it over some small matter neither one could, or would, later describe.

But Spilman is not one to hold a grudge.

“Regardless of my mixed feelings about Tom personally, I’m a tremendous admirer of his work,” says Spilman, who is the guest curator for the first Eugene show in years of work by Blodgett.

Faces, Figures and Phantoms: A Partial Self-Portrait opens Sept. 30 at the Karin Clarke Gallery. “He’s one of about three artists I can think of in my lifetime that actually did work powerful enough to bring me to tears,” Spilman says.

Blodgett, who died of cancer in 2012, was an archetypal eccentric genius. Any number of people who knew him will tell you he might actually be the most brilliant artist Eugene has ever produced, certainly the best at drawing. Unfortunately, Blodgett always told you that, too, forcefully and repeatedly, often in practically the same breath denigrating arts world people trying to help him.

“Americans don’t understand art,” he told me in a 1999 interview. “They believe illustration is art. In their mind art is just something in your head. An opinion!”

Blodgett often claimed no Oregon painter had a work in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. He boasted that he would become the first artist from our state to have work in that august collection. The basis for this, not surprisingly, turns out to be untrue, and wasn’t true when he said it: The Met, for example, has in its collection a 1949 painting by Clayton S. Price, who spent most of his career in Portland.

But Blodgett battled serious demons his entire life. By his own account, he suffered from obsessive behavior as a child. When he was 10 he stopped eating for long

enough that he landed in the hospital.

In grade school, while other children were drawing pictures of fairy princesses or souped up hot rods, Blodgett was making pictures whose violent and sexual content disturbed his teachers, perhaps a harbinger of the dark, brooding pictures he would later make as a professional artist.

Blodgett studied art at Lewis and Clark College, where he graduated in 1962, and then got an MFA degree at the University of Oregon in 1966, working with such regional luminaries as David McCosh and Jack Wilkinson.

As an adult, his demons included alcohol, and Blodgett later admitted he had been a serious drunk until he dried out in the late 1980s. Drinking, he said, was such a foundation to his life that it took him months to learn to draw without a bottle by his side.

Despite his lofty aspirations and indisputable artistic skills, Blodgett never made it to the art world’s big leagues. His drawings got one show in a New York gallery in 1977, but in general he was so demanding and difficult to deal with that he sabotaged any hope of a broader career.

Two decades ago, I interviewed Blodgett for a story in *The Register-Guard*. He was living in those days in a run-down house in south Eugene, a place with shaky plumbing, bad heat and a leaky roof. He was being supported by a cultish group of young art students who brought him groceries and cigarettes in exchange for the chance to be near a man they considered an artistic genius.

Thousands of his paintings and drawings were mildewing in the damp rooms as Blodgett explained to me that he had discovered the secret of art — a secret as arcane and as mystical as those once sought by the alchemists. “It’s not the kind of secret you could just hand to somebody,” he told me, lounging on a dingy sofa and smoking cigarette after cigarette. “I know, now, how the Old Masters made those drawings. You’d have to spend a lot of time doing this, building up a visual literacy. It’s the kind of secret that requires pure ability. You don’t

need to think about images or anything. That will come. It’s the weave, the weave of the universe. That’s what this is all about.”

Then he leaned toward me.

“I could kill you right now and nothing would ever happen to me,” he said. “It would just be called a psychotic episode.”

Set aside the man for the moment and look at his art. Blodgett’s drawings are exquisite — finely observed, deftly captured, perfectly expressive, without a trace of doubt or hesitation in his hand. He was as confident with a pencil or charcoal stick as Picasso. He drew people, primarily, with a dark energy that brings to mind a range of artists from Francisco Goya to Ralph Steadman. The faces in those drawings are haunting, with a surreal energy that can be disorienting. And Blodgett drew constantly, working through the day and late into the night.

“He got more content from a scribble than any other artist I’ve known,” Spilman says. “His almost palpable intensity when he was drawing gave his drawing an aspect of strength.”

Blodgett’s art has also drawn interest from a New York art consultant named Peter Hastings Falk, who specializes in bringing attention to little-known and undervalued artist estates.

In a lengthy essay on Blodgett, Falk compares his work to that of the Northwest visionaries such as Morris Graves, Mark Tobey and Kenneth Callahan, who were written about in a lengthy 1953 article titled “Mystic Painters of the Northwest” in *Life* magazine. “Spiritually he was more aligned with the mysticism of Mondrian, Munch and Kandinsky — whose paths to the unconscious influenced Marsden Hartley, Gordon Onslow-Ford and Jackson Pollock,” Falk writes.

After I met him in 1999, Blodgett — with no income to speak of — faced losing his home for non-payment of taxes. As luck would have it, he was saved by a woman he had married, divorced, remarried and later split up with but never legally divorced the second time. She died and, as her husband, he inherited \$800,000. He used the money to pay his taxes, to remodel the house and to build a studio.

The Eugene show will include two dozen framed pieces and about 30 more pen and ink works that will be matted and sleeved, but not framed.

Spilman chose the work from hundreds of pieces now owned by Anne Fuller, a neighbor who befriended Blodgett when he lived in that squalid house in south Eugene. Though she has no art background, Blodgett left much of his artistic estate to her when he died in 2012.

Fuller has taken on the task of conserving Blodgett’s art in the hopes that it might finally be seen by a larger audience. She has catalogued and photographed some 4,500 drawings and paintings, which are now housed in the studio Blodgett built where that run-down house once stood.

Spilman says he and Clarke have discussed the idea of a Blodgett show on and off over the years, perhaps as a step toward helping the collection find a home at a museum. They finally started working to put together this show about six months ago.

“My hope was that Tom’s work would be something that would go into a place like the Schnitz [the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon] or the Hallie Ford [Museum of Art in Salem] or something of that nature,” he says. “But we’re going to start out small, right?” ■

Tom Blodgett: *Faces, Figures and Phantoms: A Partial Self-Portrait* opens Sept. 30 and runs through Oct. 31 at Karin Clarke Gallery, 760 Willamette Street. Hours are noon to 5:30 pm Wednesday through Friday and 10 am to 4 pm Saturday. Masks and social distancing required. Craig Spilman will give a curator’s talk on Facebook Live at 11 am Oct. 2; see [Facebook.com/KarinClarkeGallery](https://www.facebook.com/KarinClarkeGallery). See more about Tom Blodgett and his work at [BlodgettCollection.com](https://www.BlodgettCollection.com).

A Message for YOU from 350Eugene: ALL HANDS ON DECK 2020

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On October 10, 2020 from 2pm to
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If you're a fan of hip hop then come out to WildCraft Cider House on Sept. 26 for a show featuring **M5 Vibe** (pictured) and **Julian Outlaw**. M5 is a highly skilled veteran whose music is an exercise in healing and community. While he is new to pursuing music seriously, his passion and respect for the arts is reflected in his performances. You can enjoy his deep thoughts while enjoying a delicious cider, if you're of age. Julian Outlaw's energy and enthusiasm is unmatched, and he has been writing rhymes and recording since he was in the 4th grade. In addition to hip hop, he plays the trombone and the euphonium. His positive attitude is something that we all can appreciate in COVID-19 times, so just go out and enjoy some good hearted music. "The fact that you are still alive shows you are uniquely important to the world," Outlaw says. "There are no straight lines to success, but always 'Live Above Most Expectations.'"

M5 Vibe and Julian Outlaw perform 6:30 pm Saturday, Sept. 26, at Wildcraft Cider Works, 232 Lincoln St. Tickets start at \$20. — *Chandler Henderson*

GENERAL

LISTINGS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

ACTIVIST ALERT

Thursday, Sept. 24: Land-owners and Pipelines: An Update, 3-5pm. More info at CLDC.org.

Thursday, Sept. 24: Replay: Digital Security for Activists, 3-5pm. More info at CLDC.org.

Thursday, Oct. 1: Capitalism and the Constitution, 3-5pm. More info at CLDC.org.

HEALTH

Zoom classes at YMCA.org. Zoom workout classes at CrossFit. Email Contact@CrossFitIntensify.com for more info.

Workout classes at IAmForeverStrong.com.

Workout classes at Evolve Fitness Studios. More info at EvolveFitnessStudios Facebook page.

Yoga classes at EugeneYoga.us; WildLightYogaCenter.com; EugeneMudra.com;

HotYogaEugeneBalanced.com; YogaEugene.com.

ONLINE ENTERTAINMENT

Oregon State Parks, Nature: Live in Your Family Room, OregonStateParks.org.

"Springfield Public Library - Where Minds Grow," Springfield Public Library YouTube channel.

ART EXHIBITS

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, JSMA.Uoregon.edu. Maude Kerns Art Center, MkCenter.org.

Tom Blodgett: Faces, Figures and Phantoms: A Partial Self-Portrait, Sept. 30-Oct. 31, Karin Clarke Gallery.

Associates Show & Window/Focus Show at River Gallery (thru Oct. 3), 184 S. Main St, Independence.

Mayor's Teen Art Show & New Acquisitions: Selected Works by Maude I. Kerns (thru Sept. 25), Maude Kerns Art Ctr, 1910 E. 15th Ave.

The Innovative Eye: A Life's Work by Mike Van (thru Oct.

3), White Lotus Gallery, 767 Willamette St.

ONLINE LECTURES/CLASSES

Classes and programs online w/ Museum of Natural & Cultural History (UO), MNCH.Uoregon.edu.

Opportunities at Extension (including the Virtual Fall Festival). OregonState.edu. Oregon State University Extension Service.

FAMILY/KIDS

Bilingual Storywalk in the park outside of Petersen Barn (*My Colors, My World; Mis Colores, Mi Mundo*, extended to Sept. 30), all ages. Call Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450 for more info.

Murder in the Library: Online Interactive Mystery. An online murder mystery for ages 13 and up. Online anytime w/ not library card needed. Call Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450 for more info.

ONLINE PERFORMANCE

FANS on Relix.com. Some streams FREE, others cost. More info at Relix.com.

ONLINE SPIRITUAL

Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, via Zoom. Meetings can be found at BlueCliffZen.org.

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 24

FILM

Fur: An Imaginary Portrait of Diane Arbus, 7pm, Maude Kerns Art Ctr, 1910 E. 15th Ave.

Springfilm Presents: *An Inspector Calls* film discussion, 7pm. Additional info at 541-726-2238 or email Mark Riddle at MRiddle@Springfield-or.gov.

GATHERINGS

Neighborhood Leaders Council Committee on Housing & Homelessness, noon. Online at NLC Housing and Homelessness Committee Facebook page.

HEALTH

NAMI Support Zoom Group at NAMILane.org,, 7pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Calming Yoga via Zoom, noon-1pm. RSVP at Vista-Psych.com.

Spread Peace, online support group, noon-1pm. RSVP at BethGreen.as.me.

Stay at Home Lecture Series w/ OSU College of Forestry, 3pm, Oregon-State.edu.

Beginning Meditation, 6pm. RSVP at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2.

Virtual Workshop: The Art of Nature, 6-7:30pm. More info at MNCH.org.

MUSIC

El Borko Duo, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Hank Shreve & Skip Jones, 6pm, Mac's Night Club & Restaurant.

Unidentified String Band, 7pm, beergarden.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29.

Thursday Night Jazz, 10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM

PERFORMANCE

Eugene Symphony Orchestra Quirky Thursdays, 5pm,

Francesco Lecce-Chong Facebook page.

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 25

GATHERINGS

City Club of Eugene (Candidate Forum: Lane County Commission, Position 3), noon, Eugene City Club Facebook Page, then on the City Club of Eugene Facebook page and again on Monday, Sept. 28 on KLCC, 89.7 FM.

MUSIC

RIFFLE, 5pm, Bennett Vineyards.

Concrete Delta Trio, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Delgani String Quartet, 6pm, Island Park, Springfield.

Stress Doctor, 6:30pm Mac's Night Club & Restaurant.

Friday Night Folk Music Live-Stream, 7pm. More info at Kathryn Rose Celtic Folk Music Facebook page.

PERFORMANCE

Eugene Symphony Orchestra Epic Fridays, 7pm, Francesco Lecce-Chong Facebook page.

"Virtual Cinema" w/ Broadway Metro. More info at BroadwayMetro.com.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 26

ART/CRAFT

Call to Artists, noon-6pm, intake for the "Zone 4 All" show, New Zone Art Gallery, 22 W. 7th Ave. \$10.

FARMERS MARKETS

Lane County Farmers Market, 10am-3pm, Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Spencer Creek Growers Market, 10am-3pm, Spencer Creek Grange, 86013 Lorraine Hwy.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Ananda Vinyasa-Free Yoga in the Park, 10-11am, Fern Park, 8th St, Veneta.

MARKETS

Eugene Saturday Market, 10am-5pm, Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St.

MUSIC

Gumbo Groove, 3pm, Bennett Vineyards.

Halie Loren, Music for The McKenzie: A Virtual Benefit, 5pm. More info at Halie Loren's Facebook page. \$25.

Laura Wayte & Nathalie Fortin, 5pm, Lafferty Park.

RIFFLE, 5:30pm, Lavelle Vineyards.

Darline Jackson's My Band, 6:30pm, Mac's Night Club & Restaurant.

Geoffrey Mays, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Brian James and The Revival, 6:30pm, The Woods Roadhouse.

M5 Vibe, Julian Outlaw & others, 6:30pm, Wildcraft Cider Works. Tickets start at \$20.

Alobar, 7pm, Washburne Park.

ON THE AIR

The Dr. Yeti Radio Show, 10pm-midnight, KOCF, 92.7 FM or streamed at KOCF.org.

The Institute of Spectra Sonic Sound, 10pm-midnight, KEPW 97.3 FM

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 27

FARMERS MARKETS

Dexter Lake Farmers Market, noon-4pm, Lowell Rolling Rock Park, 100 North Shore Dr, Lowell.

HEALTH

Occupy Medical, noon-4pm, 1717 Centennial Blvd, Springfield.

MARKETS

Whiteaker Community Market, 11am-4pm, Whiteaker Community Market, Scobert Park, 4th & Blair.

MUSIC

Delgani String Quartet, 3pm, Island Park, Springfield.

SPIRITUAL

Eugene Insight Meditation Community via Zoom, 6:30pm. More info at EugeneInsight.com.

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 28

GATHERINGS

Granny Rocks, 6:30pm. RSVP at BethGreen.as.me.

HEALTH

Connection Peer Support Group at NAMILane.org, 6pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Musical Mondays (music education videos), 10am, Eugene Symphony Orchestra Facebook page.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

How to Solve our Human Problems, 6-7:30pm. \$2.

Ananda Vinyasa-Free Yoga in the Park, 7-8pm, Fern Park, 8th St, Veneta.

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 29

FARMERS MARKETS

Tuesday Farmers Market, 10am-3pm, Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St.

KIDS/FAMILY

Family Storytime, 11am, Eugene Public Library Facebook page.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Teen & Young Writers' Workshops, 1-3pm, WordCrafters.org, \$125-145.

Figure Drawing Sessions, 6pm, New Zone Art Gallery, 22 W. 7th Ave.

LITERARY ARTS

SPL Virtual Book Club - *Book of the Little Axe*, 7pm, Springfield-or.libcal.com.

MUSIC

Symphony Go! w/ Eugene Symphony, noon, Kesey Square.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION

Tuesdays w/Ty (virtual trivia), 7pm, Hult Ctr. Facebook page.

Tuesday Night Trivia w/ Nic, 7:30pm, Rennie's Landing, 1214 Kincaid St.

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 30

GATHERINGS

Drum Circle, 6pm, New Zone Art Gallery, 22 W. 7th Ave.

HEALTH

Connection Peer Support at NAMILane.org, 6pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

KIDS/FAMILY

Little Notes Music Time, 9:30am, Suzuki Music Music School Facebook page.

Family Wednesdays w/ Eugene Symphony Orchestra, 7pm, Francesco Lecce-Chong Facebook page.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Ananda Vinyasa-Free Yoga in the Park, 10-11am, Fern Park, 8th St, Veneta.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Teen & Young Writers' Workshops, 1-3pm, WordCrafters.org, \$125-145.

LITERARY ARTS

The Rejects Club, 6:30-8:30pm, WordCrafters.org. FREE-\$10.

MUSIC

Jazz & Variety, 6pm, Mac's Night Club & Restaurant.

Tim McLaughlin, 7pm, The Public House.

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 1

GATHERINGS

Citizens Climate Lobby Lane Co. Chapter meeting, 5:30-7pm. Link at LaneCounty.or@Citizen'sClimateLobby.org.

HEALTH

NAMI Support Zoom Group at NAMILane.org,, 7pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Calming Yoga via Zoom, noon-1pm. RSVP at VistaPsych.com.

Spread Peace, online support group, noon-1pm. RSVP at BethGreen.as.me.

Stay at Home Lecture Series w/ OSU College of Forestry, 3pm, OregonState.edu.

Beginning Meditation, 6pm. RSVP at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2.

MUSIC

Scott Austin, 7pm, beergarden.

PERFORMANCE

Eugene Symphony Orchestra Quirky Thursdays, 5pm, Francesco Lecce-Chong Facebook page.

ATTENTION

In this unprecedented time of urgent need, Lane County Mutual Aid, in partnership with the Eugene/Springfield Chapter of the NAACP, is seeking to raise money for community members in need, especially those in the BIPOC community of Lane County. The NAACP has pledged \$10,000, \$2,000 a month from August-December, to communities of color in Lane County. With over \$100,000 in aid requested so far, this partnership hopes the community will take action and donate to reduce the gap between demonstrated need and the available funds. The financial support — with no invasive questions, no proof of income required and no barriers — will aid families and individuals who are behind on rent, need money for a move-in deposit, to have car repair work done to maintain employment, and more. If you are interested in contributing to the program, go to Donorbox.org/LaneMutualAid-Fundraiser.

Pod People

THE HULT CENTER AND WILDCRAFT ARE PARTNERING TO LET LIVE MUSIC HAPPEN

By Henry Houston

The first time I heard **Brown Stallion** perform, I was in a prison yard at Oregon State Correctional Institution in Salem.

I wasn't there as an inmate but invited by the band as a part of an Oregon prison tour. As Brown Stallion played the music of Ween, the adults-in-custody allowed to attend the concert listened while they sat, stood and played basketball.

When Brown Stallion plays a show at WildCraft, the audience will enjoy the show under a different set of restrictions — from a pod. It's how the Hult Center and the cider house venue are adapting in the COVID age to keep audiences socially distant but also offer live music.

Now, the audience isn't trapped inside of some futuristic container or alien species to prevent the spread of COVID at these shows. Hult Center Director of Programming and Booking Vicki Infinito says staff will chalk six feet between "pods" in WildCraft's parking lot. The VIP pods will have seating and tables.

Infinito says rather than buying by ticket, people purchase pods that range in size from two, four and six people. The audience has to submit contact tracing forms in case someone tests positive later. The pods consist of chairs, though the VIP upgrade includes a table.

While at the show, she adds, show-goers can't leave the pod unless they're going to the bathroom. WildCraft does have an online ordering system, so your food and drink can be delivered.

Infinito says there were no applications for the venues to send to the state of Oregon, but there are guidelines to follow. The capacity for everyone — vendors, staff, performers and audience — is at 250 people.



MEMBERS OF BROWN STALLION POSE WITH WEEN PUPPETS

The Hult Center doesn't have the infrastructure for outdoor shows with pods, Infinito says, so hosting shows at WildCraft "fell in our lap." She says that the Hult Center had a show run for two weeks at the cider house in February. A week before Labor Day, she says the owner of WildCraft called her and said, "I have a crazy idea. What do you think about doing shows in the parking lot in September?"

She says the Hult Center was talking all summer about what to do for performances.

Director of Marketing Rich Hobby says holding outdoor performances at Hult is limited by available square footage and audience angles. And it couldn't use the city-owned

Cuthbert for outdoor shows because of size limitations and it's under contract with Kesey Enterprises. The Cuthbert was also being used for childcare during summer.

"We had thrown around a ton of ideas that were cost-prohibitive," Infinito says. "So when this came up, it was a good opportunity, and we felt it was the right time to jump on it."

She adds that the idea of pod shows was thrown around at the Hult Center since the start of Phase 2 of Oregon's reopening, but the organization had to find the right location and partner.

Of course, not even outdoor shows during the pandemic are immune from kinks. The three-day run of concerts was originally planned for Sept. 17-19 but was postponed because of hazardous air quality in Eugene-Springfield from the nearby Holiday Farm Fire.

Under Phase 2, indoor gatherings are capped at 100 people, so implementing pods indoors makes planning much more difficult for the Hult Center, Infinito says.

"We are trying to come up with plans of things we can do in the fall. We likely won't call them pods like this," she says.

One plan the Hult Center has is to sell tickets up to five for a group and seat them together. But like any plan during the COVID age, that can change, she adds.

Although the Hult Center probably won't pursue pods in the future, Infinito says a lot can be said for the idea of pods.

"It gives you availability to have your own space," she says. "It could be looked at in the future if you're bringing a large group or if you're buying a VIP ticket."

And in the meantime, pods are offering a concert-hungry population some sort of satisfaction. When the Hult Center first announced the pod concerts at WildCraft, Infinito says they didn't have to spend money on marketing — the shows quickly went on the way to selling out.

"People missed it — whether it's a rock show, acoustic show or dance," she adds.

Brown Stallion performs 7 pm Thursday, Sept. 24; Free Creatures is 8 pm Friday, Sept. 25; and M5 Vibe, Julian Outlaw and others play 6:30 pm Saturday, Sept. 26. WildCraft Cider Works is at 232 Lincoln Street. Visit HultCenter.org to buy tickets. Prices range from \$20 to \$60.



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music

Park Songs

LOCAL MUSICIANS PERFORM PANDEMIC-RELATED MUSIC AT TWO FREE PARK CONCERTS IN EUGENE

By Will Kennedy

Putting on a concert in the park in late September in Eugene normally means things might get rained out. These days, however, event organizers must add social distancing guidelines and wildfire smoke to their list of concerns.

This weekend, two free concerts in the park take those risks: a concert of jazz, funk and soul originals from brand-new Eugene trio **Alobar** at Washburne Park, and a program of classical vocal music with vocalist **Laura Wayte** and pianist **Nathalie Fortin** at Lafferty Park.

What's more, each show highlights music influenced by the COVID-19 lockdown back in March.

Alobar, in fact, might not even exist if it weren't for the pandemic, says guitarist and *Eugene Weekly* contributor Jade Yamazaki Stewart.

The band's drummer, Alden McWayne, a student at Berklee College of Music in Boston, chose to ride out the lockdown in Eugene after the school moved all its classes online. Stuck in the same place and with little to do, the trio of high school friends — including Alden's brother Dana McWayne on keyboards, saxophone, and vocals — started playing music together again for the first time in years

The trio comes from an improvisational background, Yamazaki Stewart explains, with strong international influences, and the band's songwriting process is collaborative.

"We'll be practicing, and I'll come up with some riff on the guitar," Yamazaki Stewart says. "Alden will make a beat for it. We're not too stuffed into any specific roles."

After working up a setlist, and with Eugene venues closed during the pandemic, Alobar chose to play safe, socially distanced live shows at Washburne Park. The turnout has been great, Yamazaki Stewart says.

The musicians return to Washburne Park at 7 pm Saturday, Sept. 26.

Like Alobar, Eugene-based classical soprano Wayte and pianist and collaborator Fortin also had to turn to an unconventional performance venue this summer: Wayte's front porch.

At that show, Fortin and Wayte performed a program ranging from sea shanties to works from German composer Giacomo Meyerbeer. Wayte is known locally for singing with the Eugene Opera, the Oregon Mozart Players, the Oregon Symphony and the Eugene Concert Choir.

"About 35 people turned out and sat on the sidewalk while we performed on the front porch," she recalls. "I felt very emotional, because it was nice to be performing and it was also nice to see my friends and neighbors. It was also strange because I couldn't see any of them."

Rounding out the performance was a series of original Cole Porter parodies that Wayte calls "COVID Temper Tantrums," complaining about and laughing at the current pandemic situation: humor as a form of stress relief.

"The songs are ridiculously funny and wonderful in their original form," she adds, but by changing the words, Cole Porter's trademark wit is now directed squarely at COVID-19.

"I have a lot of fun with them," Wayte says.

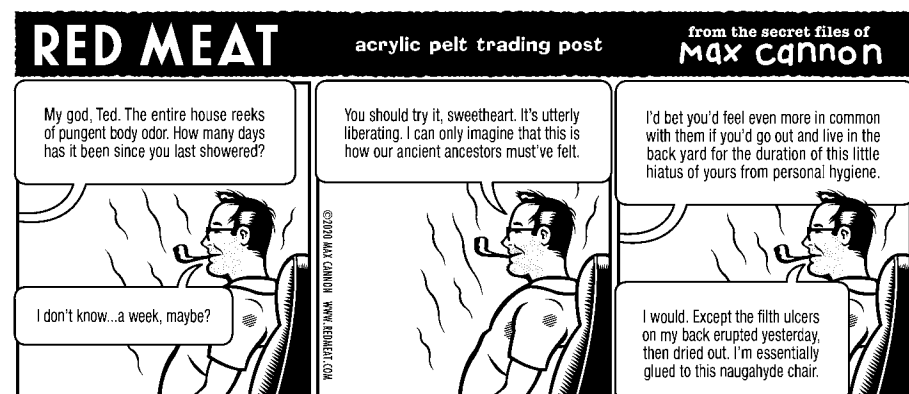
Wayte and Fortin will reprise their show, with a free performance Saturday, Sept. 26, at Lafferty Park in Eugene.

"Normally we perform in concert halls and house concerts," Wayte says, "but that is all unavailable to us since last spring, so this is our COVID-era house concert. It is so wonderful to get out in front of an audience again."

As far Alobar, they've also started working on a debut EP, recorded at the home studio of Don Latarski, a recording artist himself and head of guitar studies at the University of Oregon.,

"We're taking advantage of this time when we're all together again," Yamazaki Stewart says. "I'm happy we've had that experience."

Weather permitting, Alobar performs 7 pm Saturday, Sept. 26, at Washburne Park; FREE, all-ages. Laura Wayte and Nathalie Fortin perform 5 pm Saturday, Sept. 26, at Lafferty Park; FREE, all-ages.



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“Adjusted to Fit Your Screen”

—what the flip is going on?
[#590, Sept. 2012]

Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES
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Across

1 What your answers must be written in to understand the theme
5 Hiking path
10 “Which came first?” choice
13 Clapton or Cartman
14 Candy branded as “The Freshmaker”
16 Stuff to fix a squeaky hinge
17 Aligned correctly
19 Pompous attribute
20 Stun gun relative
21 Jewel
22 Amy Winehouse hit song
24 Complainer’s sounds
26 1980s hairstyle that may have involved a kit
27 Donut shop quantities
30 Cop show with the line “Just the facts, ma’am”
33 Cupid’s Greek counterpart

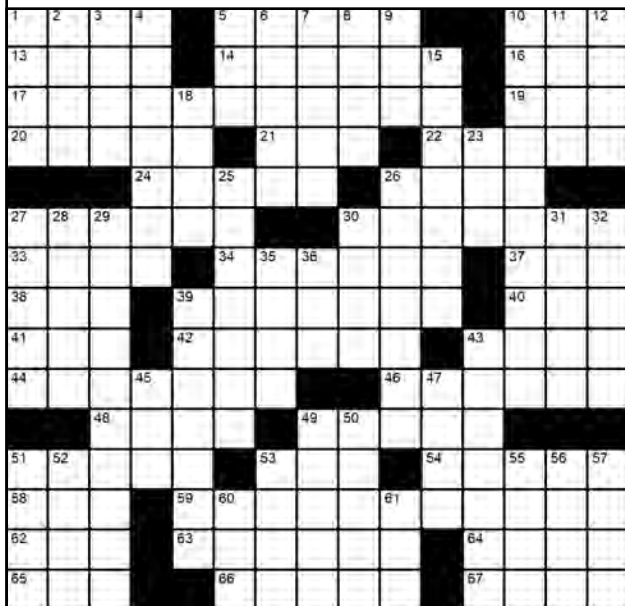
34 Wire-___ (like some terriers’ coats)
37 Rowboat propeller
38 Transmit electronically, in a way
39 Devices that, when turned, adjust themselves (just like the theme answers)
40 Greek vowel
41 Suffix form for twenty and thirty, but not ten
42 Audrey Tautou’s quirky title role of 2001
43 Stay away from
44 Moved the borders to create a new area, perhaps
46 They’re collected in passports
48 Coffee dispensers
49 Cartoonist Guisewite, or her comic strip
51 Faith whose name comes from the Arabic for “glory”
53 Rapper ___ Def
54 Walkway on an airline

flight
58 Bullfighting cheer
59 What Neil Armstrong partook in, e.g.
62 Homer’s outburst
63 It may be tossed after a wedding
64 Charity benefit, maybe
65 Take notice
66 Some religious observances
67 Stretch across

Down

1 Like some checks: Abbr.
2 Operatic solo
3 Sty dwellers
4 Crafty plans
5 Symbols after brand names
6 Rule over a kingdom
7 Chilean mountain range
8 Checklist component
9 Rawls of R&B
10 “Land sakes alive that’s

awesome!”
11 Prefix for byte meaning “billion”
12 Amorphous clump
15 Jam, margarine, or cream cheese, e.g.
18 Sci-fi film set inside a computer
23 Exercise machine unit
25 Makes embarrassed
26 Class warmup before a big exam
27 Postpone
28 Make big speeches
29 Do the “I am not a crook” thing with the V-signs, for example?
30 Three, in Germany
31 Completely devour
32 ___ fatty acids
35 Troy’s friend on “Community”
36 Under the weather
39 Activity done in heated beds
43 Well-known quotations, often
45 “Are you a man ___ mouse?”
47 Warm up after being in the freezer
49 Amounts on a bill
50 Liability counterpart
51 Physiques, in entertainment tabloids
52 Lotion ingredient
53 Actress Sorvino
55 Shower gel, essentially
56 Hit for The Kinks
57 Actor McGregor
60 Clumsy sort
61 Org. that provides W-2 forms



ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S

1. JAKE 2. FLA 3. OCHER
4. EDIT 5. DAS 6. RENEGE
7. FILTER 8. VSGARBAGE
9. FATAL 10. ANEG 11. COEF
12. TILL 13. ENT 14. HDS
15. AGES 16. DAK 17. OAHU
18. LUSH 19. VSMORPHINE
20. LAPAT 21. POO 22. OTTOS
23. CAKE 24. VSPA 25. VMENT
26. DECO 27. ADE 28. ERSE
29. HUR 30. HTE 31. NTH
32. ASTA 33. TSAO 34. UMPED
35. BELL 36. VVS 37. FISHBONE
38. LILLIE 39. ESE 40. ALDA
41. ATE 42. IN 43. WET 44. SEEN

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): “It takes a lot of courage to be the same person on the outside that you are on the inside.” Author Barbara De Angelis made that observation. I offer it up to you as a fun challenge. During the coming weeks, you may be strongly tempted to be different on the outside than you are on the inside. On the other hand, you’ll have the necessary insight and valor to remain unified. In fact, you may ultimately create more congruence between your inside and outside than you have in a long time.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): “People who deny the existence of dragons are often eaten by dragons. From within.” Fantasy author Ursula K. Le Guin made that observation, and now I’m conveying it to you just in time for the season when you’ll need it most. Please note that I am *not* predicting you’ll be devoured by dragons from within. In offering you this oracle, my hope is that you will: 1. acknowledge the existence of metaphorical dragons; 2. locate where they hang out in your inner realms; 3. study them and get to know them better; 4. devise a strategy for dealing with them safely.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): “Don’t let them tame you,” advised flamboyant Gemini dancer Isadora Duncan. Who did she mean by “them”? The mainstream critics, who might have wished she cultivated a less maverick style? Her managers and handlers, who may have wanted her to tone herself down so she could earn maximum amounts of money? Her friends, who cringed when she did things like dancing on a table wearing an evening dress at a party? In accordance with astrological omens, Gemini, I invite you to take a survey of what influences might wish you were more docile, mild, or manageable. And then meditate on how you could consistently express the healthiest kind of wildness.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): In the Yoruba religion of *Ifá*, the English word “heart” has two different meanings and words. So says Yoruba priest Awó Falokun Fatunmbi. The first heart is the organ that pumps blood through our bodies. It’s called *okán*. Within the *okán* is the second heart: a power center that regulates the flow of emotions. It’s called *ègbè*. I believe your *ègbè* will be exceptionally strong and clear and generous in the coming weeks, Cancerian. Your capacity to feel deeply and truly will be a gift to all those with whom you share it. It will also have the potential to enhance your appreciation for your own mysterious life. Wield your *ègbè* with glee and panache!

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Ancient Greek philosopher Plato observed, “Do not train children to learn by force or harshness; but direct them to what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each.” The same principle applies to all of us adults who are committed to the goal of life-long learning. And according to my astrological analysis, it will be especially useful for you Leos to keep in mind during the coming weeks. It’s time to energize your education! And here’s the best way to gather the new teachings that are important for you to know: Follow what amuses your mind.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Christian author Frederick Buechner writes, “We are commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves, and I believe that to love ourselves means to extend to those various selves that we have been along the way the same degree of compassion and concern that we would extend to anyone else.” Let’s make this your keynote for the next two weeks. Now is an excellent time to take a journey through your past to visit all the other people you have been. As you do attend to this poignant work, be generous with each of your old selves. Forgive them for their errors and praise their beauty. Tell them how much you love them. Thank them for how they have made possible the life you’re living now.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Seventy-nine-year-old Libran poet Robert Pinsky has had a triumphant life. He has published 19 books, including his own poems and essays, as well as translations of Italian and Polish poetry. For four years he served as the United States Poet Laureate. To what factors does he attribute his success? Here’s one: “Whatever makes a child want to glue macaroni on a paper has always been strong in me,” he testifies. He’s referring to the primitive arts-and-crafts projects he enjoyed while growing up. In accordance with astrological omens, I encourage you, too, to get in touch and commune with the primal roots of the things you love to do. Reconnect with the original expressions of your passion for life.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): “A single ego is an absurdly narrow vantage point from which to view the world,” wrote occultist Aleister Crowley. Author Gore Vidal agreed, saying, “Since no one can ever know for certain whether or not his own view of life is the correct one, it is absolutely impossible for him to know if someone else’s is the wrong one.” All of us can perpetually benefit from this counsel. And it will be especially healthy for you to heed during the next four weeks. Humility will be a superpower. Blessings will flow your way if you don’t need to be right all the time. As you refrain from regarding your own opinions as God’s holy decrees, you will generate good fortune for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): “It’s a rare gift, to know where you need to be, before you’ve been to all the places you don’t need to be.” Author Ursula K. Le Guin wrote that. I’m passing it on to you because I suspect you now possess the power to claim this rare gift. In the coming days, you don’t have to engage in endless evaluations of the numerous possibilities. You don’t have to risk falling victim to overthinking. Your clear, strong gut hunches will tell you exactly where you need to be and how to get there.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Novelist Henry Miller was in many ways a quintessential Capricorn. He described himself as being “in love with love, always in search of the absolute, always seeking the unattainable.” Feelings like those are why your astrological symbol is the mountain goat that’s always climbing higher, questing toward the next pinnacle. At your best, you’re determined to keep striving for the brightest, the strongest, the truest. Sometimes you overdo this admirable imperative, but mostly it’s a beautiful quality. You are hereby authorized to express it with maximum wisdom and eagerness in the coming weeks.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): “Go catch a falling star,” wrote poet John Donne (1572-1631) in his poem “Song.” “Tell me who cleft the Devil’s foot,” he went on to say. “Teach me to hear the mermaids singing.” He wasn’t being literal, but rather was indulging in poetic fancy to stretch his readers’ imaginations. I’m offering you the spirit of Donne’s poem, Aquarius, because you’re ripe to transcend your limited notions about what’s plausible and implausible. If you allow yourself to get extravagant and unruly in your fantasies, you may crack through shrunken expectations and break into a spacious realm of novel possibilities.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): I don’t suggest you indulge daringly in sensual pleasures, ca-thartic exchanges of energy, and intoxicating pursuits of relief and release. The pandemic mandates us to be cautious about engaging in unmitigated bliss — even though the astrological omens suggest that if now were a normal time, such activities would be well worth focusing on. How can you resolve this dilemma? Possibilities: 1. Experiment zestfully with your live-in steady or spouse. 2. Get a COVID-19 test with a potential playmate, and if you both test negative, celebrate boisterously. 2. Round up a dazzler with whom you can generate rapture via Zoom. 3. Fantasize about delightfully gracious debauchery. 4. Go solo.

Homework: In your fantasy, create an alternate version of yourself with a different name and a different life. FreeWillAstrology.com

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UNLESS YOU TAKE THESE STEPS, YOU WILL RECEIVE NO FURTHER COPIES OF THE FILINGS IN THIS CASE. Dated this 24th day of September, 2020. By /s/ Philip M. Wasley, OSB No. 942005, Attorney for Petitioners, 142 West 8th Ave, Eugene, Oregon 97401 PH: 541-343-1110 FAX: 541-485-7742. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY In the Matter of the Guardianship of CADENCE OCHOA, Respondent. Case No. 20PRO0321 AMENDED PETITION TO APPOINT MICHAEL AND CLAREESE CARRICK AS PERMANENT CO-GUARDIANS (MINOR). This petition is amended to correct the name of the Respondent. The following information is given with regard to the Respondent and the Co-Petitioners, the proposed co-guardians. 1. Respondent Information: Name: Cadence Ochoa Age: 16 Birth Date: December 4, 2003 Address: 1475 Greenacres #28 Eugene, Oregon 97408 Current Location: Same. Petitioners, proposed permanent co-guardians: Name: Michael and Clareese Carrick, husband and wife Ages: Michael Carrick - 65. Clareese Carrick - 64. Address: 1475 Greenacres #28 Eugene, Oregon 97408. Interest: To promote and protect the well-being of Respondent. Relationship: Grandparents of Respondent. 2. The proposed co-guardians have never been convicted of a crime, filed for bankruptcy, or had a license revoked or canceled that was required by the laws of any state for the practice of a profession or occupation. 3. The proposed co-guardians are willing and able to serve as the respondent’s co-guardians. 4. Appointment of co-guardians is sought because the respondent is a minor in need of a guardian. The facts that support this request for a guardianship are as follows: The proposed co-guardians have had custody of the Respondent since June of

2016 when Respondent’s mother handed Respondent over to them. The proposed Co-Guardians are the parents of Respondent’s mother. Respondent’s mother, Sara McMakin, is currently homeless and facing intermittent addiction issues. Respondent’s mother is in no position to, and expresses no desire to, provide care for the proposed protected person. Respondent’s father, DeShelly Hamilton, has never played a role in Respondent’s life. Respondent has only met him once, when she was four or five years old. Respondent’s parents are both expected to consent to this petition to appoint Co-Guardians. 5. The following less-restrictive alternatives to the Appointment of co-guardians were considered, and the reasons why these alternatives are inadequate are as follows: A “Temporary Guardianship,” executed on a form between the proposed protected person’s mother and the proposed co-guardians, but not sanctioned by any court or having any authority under Oregon law, has been in place since June of 2016. Respondent requires an official permanent guardian to obtain a passport and enroll in the co-guardians’ health insurance, neither of which is possible without the legal status of being a protected person having a guardian. 6. The proposed co-guardians do not intend to place the respondent in a mental health treatment facility, a nursing home, or other residential facility. 7. The proposed co-guardians are not a public or private agency or organization that provides services to the respondent or an employee of a public or private agency or organization that provides services to the respondent. 8. The proposed co-guardians are not professional fiduciaries, as defined in ORS 125.240 and ORS 125.242. 9. The proposed co-guardians will not exercise control over the respondent’s estate. The estimated value of the estate is \$0. The respondent’s monthly income is \$0. The guardian will be holding money of the respondent in the

amount of \$0 at the time of appointment. 10. The petitioners are not asking for plenary authority for the fiduciary. 11. A visitor must be appointed in this proceeding. 12. The venue for this proceeding lies in Lane County because the respondent resides in this county. No other court in the State of Oregon, or any other state, has jurisdiction in this matter and no guardian previously has been appointed for the respondent. WHEREFORE, the petitioner prays for a limited judgment: a) Appointing Michael and Clareese Carrick as Co-Guardians for Cadence Ochoa; b) Appointing a visitor; c) Waiving any bond; and d) Directing that letters of co-guardianship issue to Michael and Clareese Carrick. I AM A PETITIONER IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER AND HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND THAT I UNDERSTAND IT IS MADE FOR USE AS EVIDENCE IN COURT AND IS SUBJECT TO PENALTY FOR PERJURY. Michael Carrick, Co-Petitioner Dated this 24th day of September, 2020. I AM A PETITIONER IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER AND HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND THAT I UNDERSTAND IT IS MADE FOR USE AS EVIDENCE IN COURT AND IS SUBJECT TO PENALTY FOR PERJURY. Clareese Carrick, Co-Petitioner Dated this 24th day of September, 2020. Petitioners/Proposed Co-Guardians: Michael and Clareese Carrick 1275 Greenacres #28, Eugene, Oregon 97408, 541-609-0212. skspp54@yahoo.com. Attorney for Petitioners: Philip Wasley, OSB No. 94200 Wasley Law Office, PC, 142 West 8th Ave, Eugene, Oregon 97401, 541-343-1110, philwasley@eon.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of MARCIA MARIE HALLOQUIST, Deceased. Case No. 20PB06137 NOTICE TO



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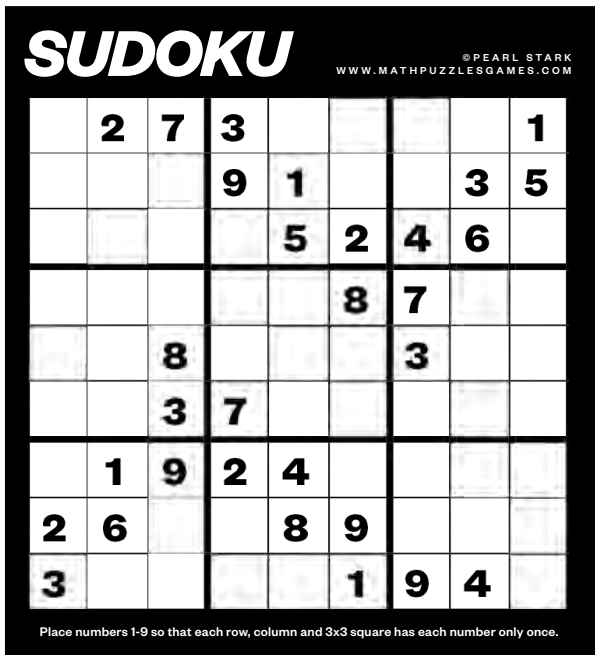
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INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative at 767 Willamette Street, Suite 302, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative, John C. Fisher. Dated and first published on September 17th, 2020. /s/ Lynn Marie Nason Personal Representative

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of JAMES LOUIS STREHL, Deceased. No. 20PB02919 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that Katherine Strehl-Roberts has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative at: Katherine Strehl-Roberts, C/O Lynn Shepard, Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97401, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published: 09/17/20. /s/ Katherine Strehl-Roberts, Personal Representative Lynn Shepard, Attorney for Personal Representative, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97401, (541) 485-3222

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Adoption of: JAX DONALD POE, a minor child. Case No. 20AP00337 SUMMONS To: Brad Donald Poe Jr.,

address 11010 61st E Ave, Apt 102, Puyallup, WA 98373. You must file with the court a written answer to the motion for order to show cause and the order within 30 days after the date on which you are served with this summons or, if service is made by publication or posting under ORCP 7 D(6), within 30 days from the date of last publication or posting. If you fail to file a written answer to the motion for order to show cause and to the order within the time provided, the court, without further notice and in your absence, may take any action that is authorized by law, including but not limited to entering a general judgment of adoption of the child if the court determines, on the date the answer is required or on a future date, that your consent is not required and that the adoption is in the child's best interests. If you file an answer to the motion for order to show cause and to the order, the court will schedule a hearing to address the motion for order to show cause and order and, if appropriate, the adoption petition, will order you to appear personally, and may schedule other hearings related to the petition and may order you to appear personally at those hearings. You have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, please retain one as soon as possible to represent you in this proceeding. If you meet the state's financial guidelines, you are entitled to have a lawyer appointed for you at state expense. To request appointment of a lawyer to represent you at state expense, you must contact the Lane County Circuit Court immediately. Please call (541) 682-4020 for further information. You are responsible for maintaining contact with your lawyer and keeping your lawyer advised of your whereabouts. Dated this 17th day of September, 2020. /s/ Kadee Beth Fetter, Petitioner. 5495 A Street #1, Springfield, OR 97478, (541) 953-2955 qtpieshrum@yahoo.com. /s/ Nathan Daniel Fetter, Petitioner 5495 A Street #1, Springfield, OR 97478, (541) 914-3490, qtpieshrum@yahoo.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF Lane. In the Matter of the Estate of John David Berry, Deceased. Case No. 20PB04700. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. TAKE NOTE: Jennifer Fejzic has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the personal representative at 80 E Maple Street, Lebanon, OR 97355, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published September 10, 2020. /s/Tammy R. Schilling, Attorney for Personal Representative. Personal Representative: Jennifer Fejzic c/o Tammy R. Schilling, Morley Thomas Law, 80 E Maple Street, Lebanon, OR 97355, Telephone: 541-258-3194. Attorney for Personal Representative: Tammy R. Schilling, OSB #000981, 80 E Maple Street, Lebanon, OR 97355, Telephone: 541-258-3194.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COWETA COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA In Re: Petition of LORAN NICOLE POSEY, ADOPTION NO. 2020-A-025 FOR THE ADOPTION OF ARIEL ISIS POSEY, ALEXANDER WADE POSEY, GABRIEL ORION POSEY and DEXTER COLLIN POSEY NOTICE OF SUMMONS TO: DECHE ELIZABETH POSEY Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption by Stepparent and Termination of your Parental Rights as against DECHE ELIZABETH POSEY in the adoption of said children by LORAN NICOLE POSEY was filed in the Superior Court of Coweta County, Georgia on the 2nd day of September, 2020. You are hereby commanded and required to appear before the presiding judge of the Superior Court of Coweta County, Georgia, on the 26th day of October 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The hearing is for the purpose of determining whether or not your parental rights should be terminated and for a final hearing for adoption of said children. Please be advised that this is a serious proceeding and if the Petition is granted by the Superior Court, the Court's order will be without limit as to duration and will terminate all your rights and obligations with respect to said children and all rights and obligations of the children to you arising from your parental relationship, including rights of inheritance. Unless an Objection and Notice of the Filing of the Objection are filed, you will not thereafter be entitled to object to said adoption or otherwise to participate in the proceedings. You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of said court and serve upon Petitioner's attorney whose name and address is Megan E. Wallin, 5 East Broad Street, Newnan, Georgia, 30263, a response to the Petition which is herewith served upon you within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you or by October 26, 2020, exclusive of the day of service. Notice shall be deemed the date of last publication. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. WITNESS, THE HONORABLE DENNIS BLACKMON, JUDGE, COWETA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, THIS 14th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.

SAVAGE LOVE

Missed Connections
BY DAN SAVAGE



Married guy here. I'm 33, the wife is 31. Our fifth anniversary is next month but we've been together for almost eight years. We've recently both come out to each other as bi. She tried to tell me a long time ago whereas I came to the realization only recently. We're both interested in new sexual encounters and this weekend we met up with a male escort. It was my first sexual experience with a man and the first sexual encounter between my wife and another man in eight years... and we found it lacking. It was too short, and too impersonal. Is this how it usually goes with escorts? Should we have been more upfront with our interests ahead of time? We don't want to keep spending the money if we're not getting the experience we want. We need to stay fairly discreet for most of these encounters due to our careers. Appreciate any input.

Basking In Confusion Over Underwhelming, Pitifully Lackluster Experience
P.S. A shoutout to my amazing wife for going from learning I'm bi to fucking another dude with me three months later!

Some sex workers love their jobs, some don't; some sex workers are good at their jobs, some aren't. Sometimes a sex worker doesn't click with a particular client for some ephemeral, hard-to-define reason; sometimes a client gives off a bad vibe — or a bad odor — and the sex worker bails or hurries things along not because they're a shitty sex worker, BICOUPLE, but because their client is shitty or smells shitty.

But here's the thing, BICOUPLE: no sex worker can read minds. You tell me you're wondering if you should've been "more upfront with [your] interests ahead of time." If you left something important out when you made the booking, well, that could've been the problem. No sex worker likes having things sprung on them. A sex worker who doesn't do kink is going to feel very uncomfortable if there's a bunch of bondage gear laid out when they arrive; even a sex worker who does kink is going to feel uncomfortable if kink wasn't discussed in advance. Similarly, BICOUPLE, if you didn't explain to your sex worker that there were two of you, your sex worker might've felt uncomfortable when they arrived.

If you weren't clear about your wants and your sex worker didn't ask or you couldn't articulate them after he asked, you put your sex worker in the position of having to guess. And your sex worker may have guessed wrong — some clients prefer sex that's athletic, impersonal, or aggressive. And if your sex worker had a bad experience with a husband who got upset when his wife seemed a little too into him, he may have erred on the side of maintaining some emotional distance even as you got physically close.

If what you wanted — if what you were most interested in — was a more intimate and connected experience, then you weren't just expecting sexual labor from the sex worker you hired, BICOUPLE, but his emotional labor too. While affection and intimacy can certainly be faked, we don't typically expect a strong emotional connection when we're hooking up with a stranger. Being sexually intimate can build that connection, BICOUPLE, but it can take time and a few meetings to get there. To avoid winding up in bed with another sex worker you don't click with, I would advise you to take the time — and spend the money — to make a real connection. By which I mean: Go on a date. Find a sex worker you're interested in and make a date — for dinner. Pay them for their time, pay for their meal, and if you click, BICOUPLE, if you feel like you could connect, book them for a sex date.

Straight male here, divorced four years ago, just entering my fifties. I recently expanded my dating app parameters to see everyone in my area. I wanted to check out the competition and possibly give myself a little ego boost. I have a gay male friend who is in his forties. Mr. Forties has a boyfriend of two years who is in his twenties. They are great together — they vacation together, they quarantined together, Mr. Twenties and Mr. Forties worked on redecorating a home together, etc. The problem is I spotted Mr. Forties on several dating apps. It would have been perfectly acceptable for him to say, "none of your business," when I asked him why. Instead he told me they were old profiles, implying they pre-dated Mr. Twenties. He lists pets on his profiles that he adopted a few months ago. I have a sore spot about this behavior because my ex-wife started "auditioning" my replacement before we filed divorce papers. I really don't like being lied to. What do I do? Confront Mr. Forties? Mind my own business and hope Mr. Forties doesn't crush Mr. Twenties by cheating? Help!

Fumbled Into Fraught Terrain Involving Expanded Search

Maybe Mr. Forties and Mr. Twenties have an open relationship. Maybe they have a closed relationship but both regard flirting on dating apps as harmless. Maybe Mr. Forties was charged with finding a very special guest star for a threesome. Or maybe Mr. Forties has profiles on dating apps for the exact same reason you expanded the parameters on your profiles, FIFTIES: for the ego boost.

If it was any of the above — if there was an innocent explanation — why did Mr. Forties go with, "Those were old profiles," instead of, "We sometimes have threesomes"? Well, in my experience, FIFTIES, some straight people have a hard time wrapping their heads around the kind of non-monogamy practiced by most gay male couples. Hell, some closed-minded gay people have a hard time with it. I can imagine a scenario where Mr. Forties was honest with people in the past and got a bad reaction and consequently no longer feels safe — much less obligated — to share the details of his sex life with straight or gay friends. So he gave you the answer a lot of straight people and some gay people prefer to hear when they ask pointed questions of partnered friends they assumed to be monogamous: "Of course I'm not sleeping around! Those were old profiles! My monogamous boyfriend would never want me to shove my monogamous dick down his throat while some other dude non-monogamously rearranges his guts! Heavens! We're far too busy redecorating our lovely home to arrange threesomes! Which we're totally not interested in having!"

Look, FIFTIES, you put a question to Mr. Forties that he wasn't obligated to answer at all, much less answer truthfully. So what do you do now? What you should've done when you first stumbled over Mr. Forties' dating profiles: You do nothing. You drop it. The issue you shouldn't have brought it up in the first place? You don't bring it up again. Even if Mr. Forties is auditioning replacements for Mr. Twenties — even if he lied to you for a selfish, self-serving reason — it's still none of your business.

My boyfriend and I first heard the terms "sexual monogamy" and "social monogamy" on your podcast. They describe us: not sexually monogamous, but we present that way socially and most people in our lives assume we are. Including my mother. We're both from very Republican families that struggled to accept us. My attitude is that if my brothers don't have to tell our parents about their kinks, I don't have to tell them about my threesomes. (Both of my older brothers have confided in me about their kinks, which I wish they hadn't.) But it got back to me via my sister that my Trump-worshipping, Obama-despising mother only accepts me and my boyfriend because we are "good" gays. Good because we're monogamous, like good straight people, and not promiscuous, like bad gay people. Now I feel like I should say something. But what?

They Really Underestimate My Proclivities

"Good people can be 'promiscuous,' Mom, and awful people can be monogamous. Take Donald Trump. That asshole has been married three times and cheated on every one of his wives. Barack Obama, whom you despise, has been married once and has never been caught cheating. Which means Obama either doesn't cheat or, like everything else he's ever, from being someone's husband to being our president, he's better at it than Donald Trump."

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